

William Merrick – Eastham Land Records 1650-1745

William Merrick was in Duxbury before 1636. He married Rebecca Tracy about 1645. They moved to Eastham about 1652. They had at least ten children. William was appointed surveyor several times. He died in 1688 or 1689 at age about eighty-six. William and Rebecca probably are buried in unmarked graves in Eastham Cove Burying Ground. Descendants often spelled the family name as Myrick.

1659

Granted to William Merrick four and one-half acres of upland for a house lot next to land of Robert Wixon and near the highway. (This most likely was an earlier grant at Pochet recorded in 1659). PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick four and one-half acres of upland at Pochet near land of Robert Wixon and near the highway. (Probably an earlier grant recorded in 1659). PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick eight acres at Pochet between the highway and the Cove. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. (Probably an earlier grant reorded in 1659). PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick about two acres on the southwest side of Little Namskaket beginning near the mouth of the little harbor and next to land of William Twining Jr. PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick and his heirs about two acres of meadow on the north side of Rock Harbor and on the north side of a little creek. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick and his heirs about one acre of meadow on the south side of Boat Meadow lying between land of Thomas Prince and George Crispe. PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick and his heirs about eight acres of upland on the south side of the Cove with a highway lying to the northeast. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF A160.

Granted to William Merrick and his heirs about eight acres of upland and meadow on the north side of his meadow at Rock Harbor. Bounds were indicated by marked trees and stones marked I M. PDF A160.

1669

This record makes reference to William Merrick's house lot near the Cove and next to land of Ralph Smith and his son Samuel Smith. PDF A211.

1711

Granted to William Merrick of Harwich and his heirs four acres at Little Billingsgate on the westerly and northerly side of John Merrick's house lot. Also granted to William Merrick two acres near the house lot of John Merrick. Bounds were indicated by stakes. These grants might have been for William Merrick Jr. PDF T158.

1745

The meadow on the Great Flat granted in 1703 to William Merrick, Israel Cole and Thomas Smith, all deceased, was partly destroyed by being buried with sand. The original grant was amended to provide new meadow ground. The dimensions indicate that about two and one-half acres were added. Bounds were indicated by stakes. PDF T347.

The land owned by William Merrick and his heirs described in these records amounts to about forty-five acres. By 1745 five more Merricks were found in these records to have received Eastham land grants.